



[CLICK HERE](#) to see and print the **GREEN CALENDAR**

Speakers

May 31, 2023

[Jeff Johnson, Retired Assistant Professor of Computer Science at USF](#)
"Technology for an Aging Population"

June 07, 2023

[Valeria Chupina, M.A.](#)
"The Generational Fracture in Russia Today: How Putin's Propaganda is Radicalizing My Parents' Generation"

June 14, 2023

[Leslie Moyer, Senior Black Rock City \(AKA Burning Man\) Communications Manager](#)
"Burning Creativity: Artmaking and Community Building in the Desert"

June 21, 2023

[Johanna Pfaelzer and Tom Parrish, Berkeley Repertory Theatre](#)
"Behind the Scenes with Berkeley Rep: 2023 Season"

June 28, 2023

[Berkeley Rotary Past Presidents](#)
"Rotary Year in Review"

Events

May 31st
[Civil Discourse Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 1st
[Membership Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 7th
[Supportive Housing Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 11th
[Taste of Downtown Berkeley](#)

June 14th
[Communication](#)

Club Announcements

Next Meeting. Wednesday, May 31, 12:30 PM PT, in person at First Presbyterian and via Zoom:
"Technology for an Aging Population" will be presented by Jeff Johnson, a retired Assistant Professor of Computer Science at University of San Francisco, whose field is Human-Computer Interaction. His latest book is *Designing User Interfaces for an Aging Population* (with Kate Finn). Today's world is heavily reliant on digital technology, to the point where people can hardly avoid using it. Most new technology is not designed to accommodate older adults' lack of experience in the digital domain, or the changes that people often experience as they age. Some pundits suggest that time alone will solve the problem, but they're wrong. Learn why and how the problem can be solved. The speaker is provided by President Joan Collignon.



What Do You Say? The next in a series of Civil Discourse meetings hosted by the Berkeley Rotary Peace Committee takes place on May 31, 2023, via Zoom, from 2:15-3:30 PM PT. **Topic: "Gun Safety: Would More Laws Be Effective?"** Email Dan Thomas (dthomas@tc-associates.com) for more info and to request the Zoom link.

Save the Date. Join RI on June 10, 2023, to watch the premiere broadcast of **Rotary's Champions of Inclusion**: <https://on.rotary.org/41Y8V7W>



A Very Special Taste

By Joan Collignon

You've heard that our big new fundraiser, A

[Committee Meets via Zoom](#)

June 15th

[Third Thursday](#)

June 21st

[Social Committee Meeting via Zoom](#)

June 21st

[Meetings of the Boards \(Club and Endowment\) via Zoom](#)



Taste of Downtown Berkeley, is a walking tour of some of the prime downtown restaurants, where you can stroll and enjoy gourmet bites from local chefs. You've heard that this will support Berkeley Rotary's important projects like Rotacare, scholarships, and Supportive Housing Hygiene Kits. But what you have NOT heard is how much fun this will be! The Berkeley High Jazz Combo will play at BART Plaza. ZINO's at the Shattuck Hotel will also treat us to live music. And bartenders will concoct special potions for us to purchase at happy hour prices as we nosh on the gourmet bites.

Birthdays

[Jack H. McPhail](#)

May 31st

[Ingrid Gavshon](#)

June 8th

[Khawaja Mohammad Ashraf](#)

June 10th

[Pamela V. Emerson](#)

June 19th

[Jason Aupperle Russell](#)

June 20th

[Maxim Schrogin](#)

June 28th

So bring your friends! Arrange to meet them after your shift as a volunteer. Tell them they'll be contributing not just to Berkeley Rotary, but to a revival of our downtown after the desolate COVID years. Tickets are \$60 or 2 for \$100. Buy your tickets online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/taste-of-downtown-berkeley-tickets-632323224787>

Board Bullets

By Joan Collignon

At the BRC Meeting of the Boards on May 17, 2023, your elected Board discussed several items. Of interest are:

Berkeley Rotary Club:

- Since the Board has made the decision to continue with hybrid meetings, PE Libby Tyler is trying to streamline the Zoom meetings, which require major effort. She has had some response to her plea for additional help from members. She feels that the club should purchase a used or refurbished laptop to help; Jason Russell will loan us his for a while to see how that works.
- Libby Tyler opened a discussion on whether the club should hire a webmaster. After a lengthy discussion, it was decided to refer this to the Communications Committee for evaluation and solutions. Libby laid out the need for several new committee chairs and asked for support on filling these positions.

Berkeley Rotary Endowment:

- Tina Etcheverry announced that there are three scholarship students selected for next year, who are funded for four years with money we currently have for them.
- Pamela Doolan reported on the literacy project in the Berkeley schools, called "No More Summer Slide." This provides books for all students in grades K-5 who are identified by their teachers as having reading difficulty or who will have no access to books over the summer. They will choose 5 or 6 books on a special "book shopping" day, and take them home to read over the summer. This will be presented to the Grants Committee as a proposal in place of the Dictionary Project.
- Grier Graff reported progress on the Nayarit project. He will lead a small group to scout the location in June.
- Joan Collignon reported on a possible long-term hands-on project with Berkeley Food Network, where teams of Rotarians would go in once a month to package or sort food for distribution. The first shift will be Tuesday, May 30. This will be a pilot.

Early Rotary Humor

By Frederick C. Collignon

Sometime before 1925, at the first District conference in our region open to all, a prank was played on the District Governor. During the proceedings, a fight among Rotarians appeared to happen in the balcony or upper deck, and a body fell to the lower floor. The Governor conceded he almost had a heart attack. Fortunately, it turned out that the body was a dummy, and the whole thing was a planned prank to have fun.



Over the years, there have been occasional complaints from longtime club members that our meetings are getting less raucous and fun-filled. They fret there are fewer jokes and sarcastic remarks hurled at those at the podium. Maybe it was just men's preference for a certain type of humor. As the club membership diversified, including more women, some found the early club humor a bit chauvinistic. The "take my wife . . . please" jokes had to stop.

Or it may be that we've had increasingly serious topics and service business to discuss. There's nothing funny about climate change, right? Nevertheless, the need to bring back raucous fun is a frequent request among veterans. President Joan reports that she heard the same comment from some past presidents when she interviewed them in preparation to become club president herself.

So . . . have you heard a good joke lately? Feel free to share it.

Climate-Friendly Buildings: What Exists Is Possible

By David A Wilson Jr.

Climate-friendly building design to help reduce carbon in the atmosphere that is affordable, readily available, and very effective is here and has been demonstrated in three very different residential case studies. This was the message today from our guest speaker, Rob Knapp, Ph.D., Physicist and retired Berkeley resident. The three projects included a large single-family dwelling in Colorado, a mid-rise housing building in New York, and the speaker's own ADU in California. The key to all three projects is an air and water-tight exterior properly combined with light, abundant air exchange, and insulation.

Dr. Knapp briefly explained the concept of heat energy and the adverse impacts of just one degree increase in global temperature in terms of the increased number and force of hurricanes, tornados, and other storms, droughts, and wildfires. The common root cause of the climate increase can be attributed to the increase in greenhouse gases, mostly due to increased atmospheric carbon. He did not go into detail on the science behind global climate change as that was not the subject of this talk.



Lovins Rocky Mountain Institute, Colorado [Read More](#)
